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A SHORT VIEW OF THE Riſe and Progreſs of the *Royal Infirmary* now building in the City of *Edinburgh*.

AN Hoſpital for entertaining and curing the diſeaſed Poor at *Edinburgh* has been much wanted, and long wiſhed for. The Royal College of Phyſicians have the Honour of ſetting on Foot this good Deſign, and nurſing it to the bearing it is brought to: They laid hold of a favourable Opportunity about 13 Years ago for procuring Subſcriptions to carry it on. And with ſuch Succeſs, that a Houſe ſuited to their firſt Capital of 2000 *l. Sterling* was opened in the Year 1729, for the Reception of a few Patients at a time. So far GOD has bleſſed their Endeavours, that ſeveral hundreds have come out perfectly cured, and ſcarce one of a Hundred died.

People have been ſo well pleaſed with this Undertaking, that the Capital is by voluntary Contributions now increaſed to 5000 *l. Sterling*; and the Contributers are erected into a Corporation by His Majeſty's Royal Charter, dated 28 *Auguſt* 1736, by the Name of THE ROYAL INFIRMARY OF EDINBURGH, under the Care of 20 Managers (all Perſons of Diſtinction) as is therein directed.

This Encouragement, and the Application of Patients in much greater Numbers than their preſent Houſe can receive, determined the Managers to build a larger: For which Purpoſe, they purchaſed a Piece of Ground the beſt ſituated of any within the City. This Houſe which, according to the Plan propos'd, will extend 200 Feet in Front from Eaſt to Weſt, with two Wings of 70 Feet each, will contain 216 Beds, and all Conveniencies neceſſary for that Number of Patients; beſides ſome vaulted Cells for the Reception of Lunaticks; with proper Offices, particularly, an Operation Room large enough to receive 300 Students.

The Managers propoſe, and hope to be able to receive into this Houſe every Patient that offers, from whatever Place or Country they come, if the Phyſicians and Surgeons judge that there is any Ground to hope their Diſeaſe may be cured.

All the Members of the Royal College of Phyſicians, and the Corporation of Surgeon-Apothecaries (who give the Medicines *gratis*) have engaged to attend the Patients without Fee or Reward.

So noble and pious an Undertaking, when brought to the deſigned Perfection, yields a rational Proſpect, that in this Houſe above 1000 Patients may be cured each Year; which muſt afford real Pleaſure to every Chriſtian. And there is yet further this extenſive Advantage, that all Students, either in Phyſick or Surgery, for a ſmall Gratuity to be applied towards the Expence of the Houſe, will be admitted not only to attend the Phyſicians and Surgeons in their Viſits, to ſee their Preſcriptions and Operations, and to extract from a fair Regiſter kept in this Houſe of every Patient's Caſe and Cure, all the Caſes worthy of notice; but will alſo have the Benefits of a regular Education by publick Lectures in all the different Branches of Phyſick.

The Building was begun, and a conſiderable Progreſs made in it laſt Summer; and as far as Contributions have ſince ariſen, Materials have been provided for carrying on the Work this enſuing Seaſon. Many private People have contributed to it, and ſome of them very liberally; and ſo have moſt of the Societies of *Edinburgh*. But all theſe Benefactions falling very far ſhort of the Sum neceſſary for compleating the Deſign; and the Managers being reſtrained by their Charter from employing any Part of their Capital towards the Fabrick; they are therefore laid under an abſolute Neceſſity of applying for the benevolent Aſſiſtance of all who are inclined to promote and encourage a Deſign ſo laudable in itſelf, and beneficial to Mankind.